UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/967
13 September 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 11 SEPTEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey continued between 2 and 7 September 1999 and that the aircraft in question engaged in acts of aggression, reconnaissance activities and acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

You are requested to intervene with the United States, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the facilities for these acts of aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq.

These actions are continuing to bring death and injury to hundreds of civilians and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The logistic support that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey provide to the United States and British forces makes them key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they share international responsibility for the consequences of these actions. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek lawful compensation for the damage being inflicted on its people by these same actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 2-7 September 1999

1. In the northern region 72 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 4,000 to 10,000 metres over the following cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Irbil, Zakho and Baibo.

2. In the southern region 184 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 7,000 to 12,000 metres over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basrah, Amarah, Diwaniyah, Najaf, Artawi, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Lasaf, Qurnah, Afak, Qal'at Salih, Hashimiyah, Chabaish, Khidr, Shinafiyah, Hayy, Rumaythah, Shatrah, Rifa'i, Umm Qasr, Maymunah, Hawr al-Hammar and Suq al-Shuyukh.

3. At 1105 hours on 2 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory and supported from there by an AWACS early-warning aircraft penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions and overflew the Irbil, Dohuk, Aqrah, Mosul, Tall Afar, Zakho, Amadiyah, Lake Dukan and Sinjar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1405 hours, drove them off.

4. At 0655 hours on 2 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 22 missions, 16 from Saudi airspace and 6 from Kuwaiti airspace, and were supported by two command and control aircraft, one AWACS and one E-2C, from inside Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Samawah, Artawi, Amarah, Chabaish, Qal'at Salih, Qurnah, Shatrah, Salman, Shinafiyah, Shu'aybah, Rifa'i, Qal'at Sukkar, Hawr al-Hammar and Jalibah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1030 hours, drove them off.

5. At 1050 hours on 3 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory and supported from there by an AWACS early-warning aircraft penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions and overflew the Irbil, Dohuk, Aqrah, Mosul, Tall Afar, Zakho, Amadiyah and Sinjar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1213 hours, drove them off.

6. At 1100 hours on 4 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory and supported from there by an AWACS early-warning aircraft penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 20 missions and overflew the Irbil, Dohuk, Aqrah, Mosul, Tall Afar, Zakho, Amadiyah and Sinjar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1410 hours, drove them off.

7. At 0100 hours on 5 September 1999 United States and British F-15, F-16, F-18 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 42 missions, 12 from

Saudi airspace and 30 from Kuwaiti airspace, and were supported by two command and control aircraft, one AWACS and one E-2C, from inside Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basrah, Diwaniyah, Rumaythah, Qurnah, Salman, Hayy, Afak, Shinafiyah, Jalibah, Busayyah, Artawi, Ushbayjah, Suq al-Shuyukh, Hawr al-Hammar, Qal'at Salih, Qal'at Sukkar, Chabaish, Khidr, Shatrah, Kahla' south, Ali al-Sharqi and Maymunah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1850 hours, drove them off.

8. At 0640 hours on 6 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 38 missions, 34 from Saudi airspace and 4 from Kuwaiti airspace, and were supported by two command and control aircraft, one AWACS and one E-2C, from inside Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Qurnah, Samawah, Basrah, Qal'at Salih, Busayyah, Shinafiyah, Rumaythah, Qal'at Sukkar, Lasaf, Salman, Maymunah, Hayy, Chabaish and Rifa'i areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1110 hours, drove them off.

9. At 0655 hours on 7 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 66 missions, 34 from Saudi airspace and 32 from Kuwaiti airspace, and were supported by two command and control aircraft, one AWACS and one E-2C, from inside Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Artawi, Lasaf, Qal'at Salih, Chabaish, Shatrah, Qal'at Sukkar, Shinafiyah, Salman and Khidr areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1035 hours, drove them off.